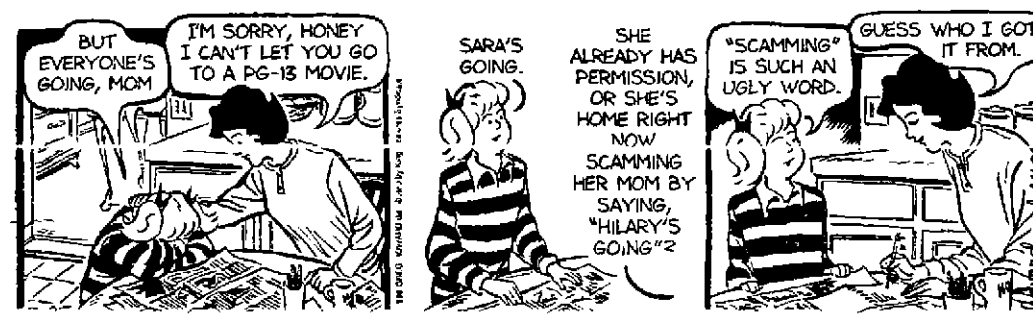


BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



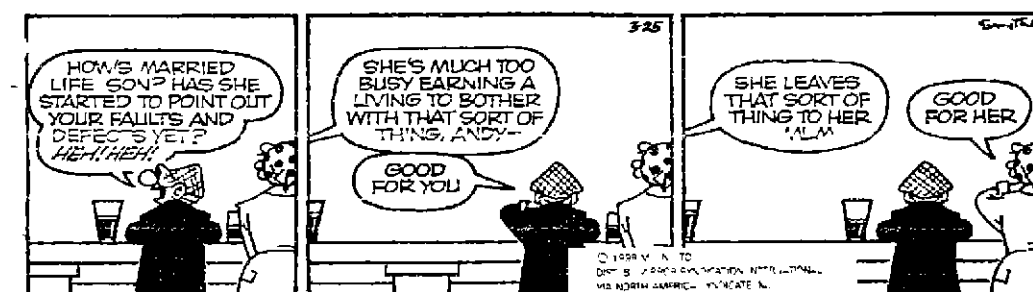
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



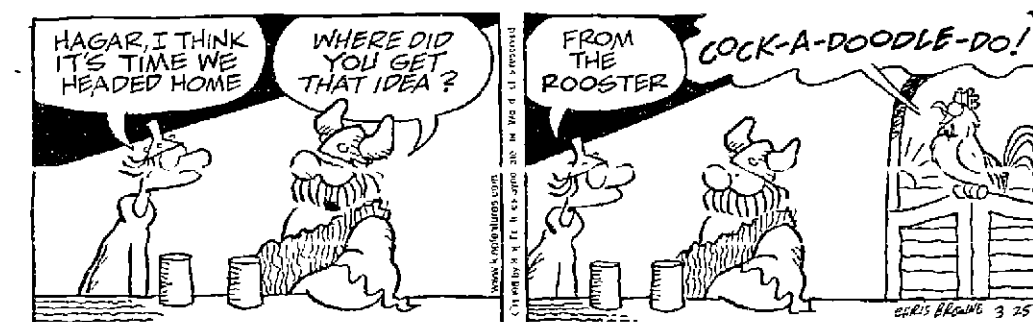
ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



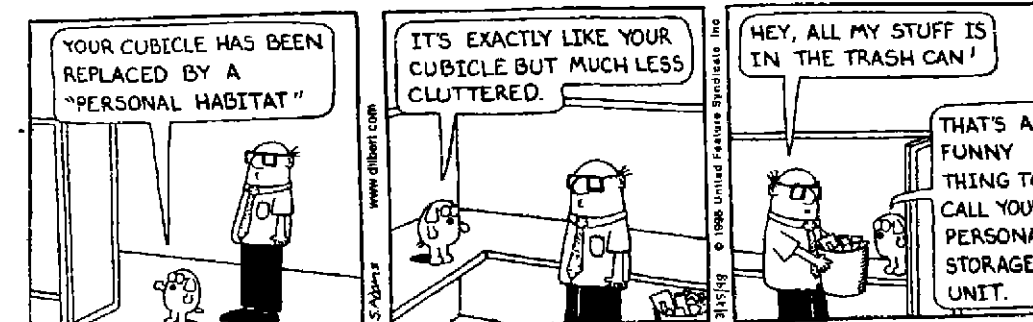
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



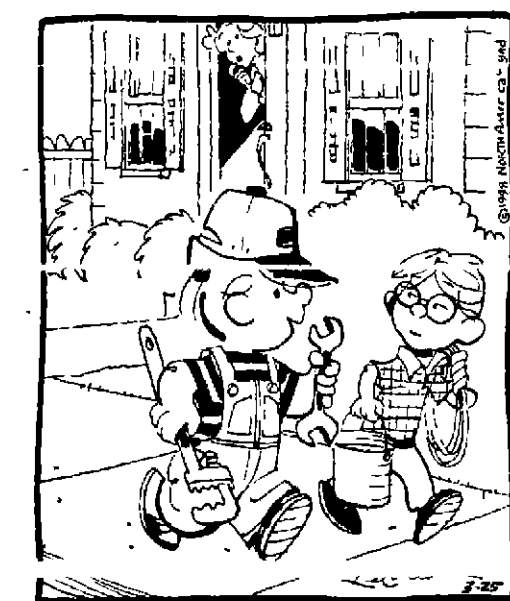
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



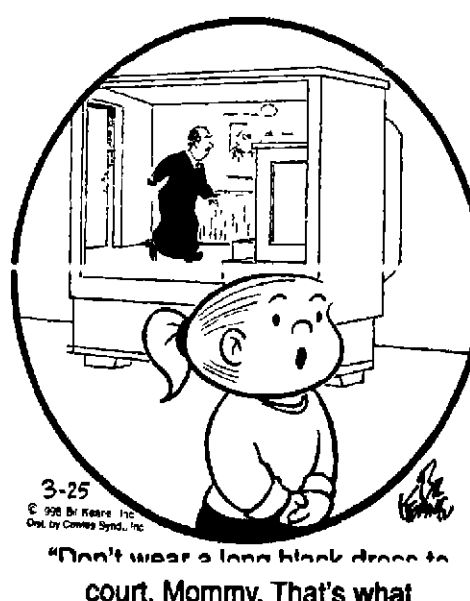
DILBERT



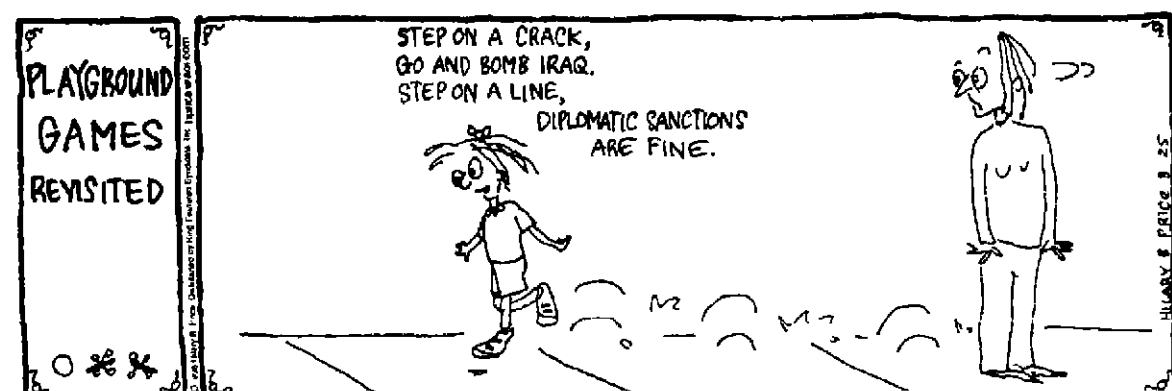
DENNIS THE MENACE



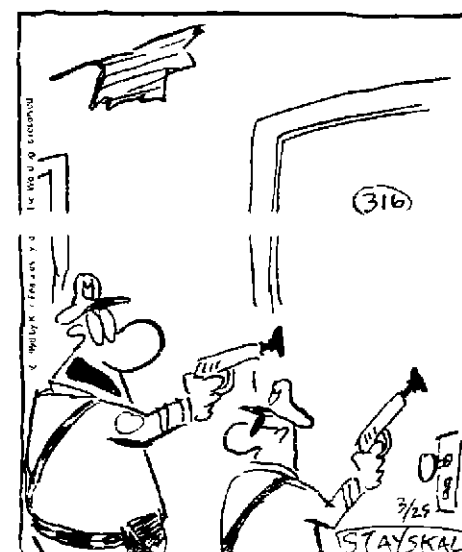
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



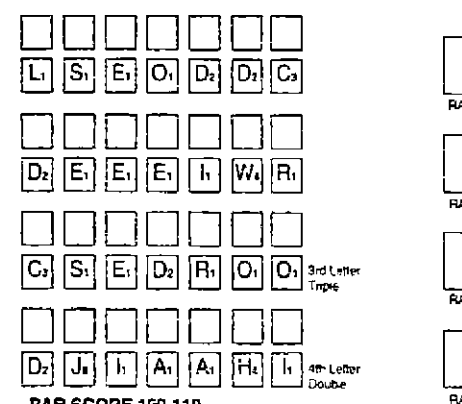
Today's Birthdays

Modeling agency founder **Eileen Ford** is 76. Former astronaut **Jim Lovell** is 70. Movie reviewer **Gene Shalit** is 66. **Comedian** **Steve Steinem** is 64. Singer **Anita Bryant** is 58. Singer **Aretha Franklin** is 56. Actor **Paul Michael Glaser** is 55. Singer **Elton John** is 51. Actress-comedian **Mary Gross** is 45. Actor **James McDaniel** is 40. Actress **Sarah Jessica Parker** is 33. Olympic bronze medal figure skater **Debi Thomas** is 31.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE



PAR SCORE 100-110

by JUDD

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directed as a right 7 letter word. 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). **JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW**

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

-class

L N J G C Z W T Q N J G D A X
U R O L J G D A X V S P N K I
F C A X V S Q O L J H C R E C
A X F I R S T E E R A G E V T
R P N L J H L S E B F N P D B
Y X V T R D P W I H D I P O S
M K I G D E O N U R T K U E D
B Z X I W L G N I L U R C U T
R Q M O N L D H J I G O U T F
D C A Y X E T W V T N W T O S
R P O N R E P U S D L R O W F

Tuesday's unlisted clue: BUNSEN

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Wednesday's unlisted clue hint: HALFWAY

Cabin	Out	Super	Upper
First	Ruling	Third	Working
Fourth	Second	Tourist	World
Lower	Storage	Under	

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For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Thursday, March 26, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're in a celebratory mood and aren't afraid to show it. On the work front, a bigwig casts a pall on your mood.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You must be careful not to overindulge in socializing. Of primary importance is getting enough rest.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Your self-expression is unparalleled, and you adroitly get your views across. When a co-worker expresses some disagreement you handle it with aplomb.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You've found a creative way to tackle an ongoing problem at work. However, be sure you're not pressuring someone unduly.
LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) You're tempted to give in to a negative mood, especially when someone close is feeling the same way.
VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Break out of your normal routine to avoid boredom. A long walk is better than a nap in terms of restoring your energy.
LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You're not pleased with a loved one's recent behavior. Express your opinion, but do so in a loving manner.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Assert yourself in your usual way in that social setting. On the work front, you rise to a challenge.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Playing hooky from work isn't in your best interests. Instead, enlist a co-worker's aid, and you both get the job done.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Because you get so much done, you can comfortably coast through the remainder of your day.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) You feel like being a loner and shun contact wherever possible. Others respect your feelings and give you a wide berth.
PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) You really should smile more. Look at how much a sunnier disposition has gotten you!

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

Today's East exhibited strength in both courage and cunning against today's no-trump game. Can you spot the unusual play he made to con South out of his "laydown" game? In a typical game, South wins his diamond queen and leads a low spade to dummy's nine and East's queen. If East believes that West led from the K-J-10 of diamonds, he returns a diamond. If not, he probably will switch to hearts. Either way, it's too late for the defense. South wins, knocks out West's spade ace, and claims an easy overtrick. What play did East find to beat the game? When South led a spade to dummy's nine, East casually played his seven. Expecting the spade queen to be with West, South crossed to his club ace to repeat the "marked" finesse in spades. West ducked again, and this time East took his queen. With only one entry in dummy, South could establish the spades, but he couldn't use them. Limited to only one spade winner, South won only eight tricks and suffered a one-trick set. What did East respond to a compliment regarding his seductive play? "It wasn't that tough," he replied. "Had South held the spade ace, he probably would have cashed it before finessing. Therefore, it was odds-on that West held the spade ace." East was not only brave and crafty, but also modest. Indeed he was a rare bird in the universe of bridge players.

NORTH
♠ K J 10 9 4
♥ 6 3 2
♦ A 5 5
♣ 7 2

WEST
♠ A 5 3
♥ J 7
♦ J 10 9 8
♣ Q 10 5 3

EAST
♠ Q 8 7
♥ Q 10 9 5
♦ 3 2
♣ J 8 4

SOUTH
♠ 6 2
♥ A K 8 4
♦ A K Q 7
♣ A K 9 6

Vulnerable: none
Dealer: South

The bidding
South West North East
1♠ Pass 1♥ Pass
2NT Pass 3NT All pass

Opening lead: Diamond jack

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0211

ACROSS

1 Arctic dwellers
6 Vegetate
10 Irving protagonist
14 Belief of 1.1 billion
15 Thompson of "Sense and Sensibility"
16 "Essays of _____," 1823
17 It's tucked under the chin
18 Farmer's prayer, perhaps
19 1994 Jodie Foster film
20 Valentine present?
22 Parisian parent
24 Motorists' org.

25 Piedmont wine center
28 Passionate
31 Not to mention
34 Grassy plain
36 1953 Pulitzer playwright
37 "Turandot" slave
38 Valentine present?
42 Ptheanthropus relative
43 Fare
44 Iota
45 Composer Rorem
46 On-the-job learner
48 Fish, to herons
50 Lineman
51 Monique's eye
53 Valentine present!

60 Delete
61 Overly bookish sort
62 Pharmacy solutions
64 Naysaying
65 Just the _____
66 Prom dress material
67 50+ percent
68 Substitute for the unnamed
69 Certain fisherman

DOWN

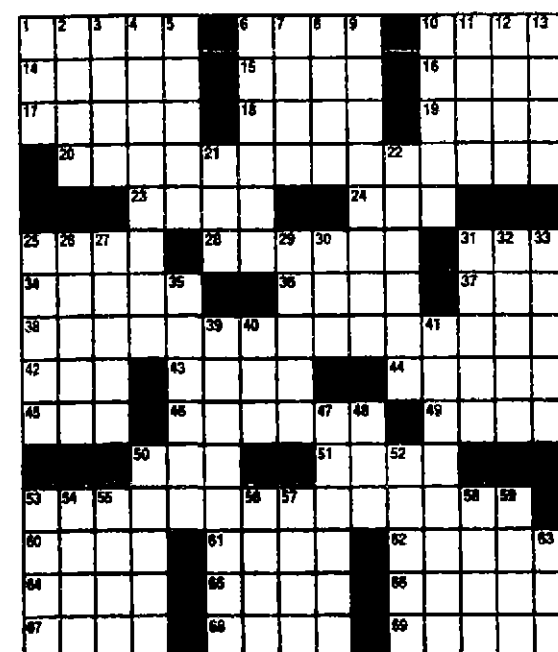
1 Year Claudius died
2 The East
3 Trudge
4 Popular parade horse
5 Urban air pollution
6 "Gigi" lyricist
7 Five-star Cradley
8 Gallic girlfriend
9 Spanish dance
10 Setting for Verdi's "Simon Boccanegra"
11 Pub quaffs
12 Nettle
13 Comrades
14 Pitching stat.
15 Honey badgers
16 Berg of "Lulu"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

MADJ WIND BREED
ELIA TIGER RALLY
MISC LILY TOMLIN
PICKED LEON ESE
PERE RAZZ
PARAGONS DESADE
ETAL SOLO RATION
LADA ERECT ZONE
FLIMO MEYE BLUR
GLICES PALOALTO
ETAT DENO

GENEWILDER BORE
ULTAY EZRA OMIT
ELECY SEAM ROME

26 Incline
27 Burdened
28 Electron tube



Puzzle by Nancy S. Ross

30 Abbr. at the bottom of a letter
31 Modify
32 Agnes, to Cecil B.
33 Somewhat dark
34 In the _____ (likely to happen)
35 Abridge
36 Tao word
37 Semimodern design
38 Short poem on two rhymes

40 Bottom line
41 Suffer a humiliating loss, in slang
42 Breathing fire
43 Course finale
44 Talking during a film, e.g.
45 Fortitude
46 Crux
47 Humonst
48 Bombeck
49 Nonexistent
50 Severe blow
51 Horribly
52 Abbr.

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone. 1-800-420-0000 (7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. EST). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years. 1-888-7-ACROSS